

Preliminary Amendment

Appln. No.: National Stage Entry of PCT/GB2003/004774
Attorney Docket No.: Q87779

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Cancel Claims 1-28.

Claim 29. (New) A method of relieving pain comprising administering, to a subject in need thereof, a heat shock polypeptide or a nucleotide molecule encoding a heat shock polypeptide.

Claim 30. (New) The method of Claim 29, wherein the heat shock polypeptide is a chaperonin.

Claim 31. (New) The method of Claim 29, wherein the heat shock polypeptide is derived from a bacterium.

Claim 32. (New) The method of Claim 31, wherein the bacterium is a *Mycobacterium*.

Claim 33. (New) The method of Claim 32, wherein the *Mycobacterium* is *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*.

Claim 34. (New) The method of any one of Claims 29 to 33, wherein the nucleotide molecule comprises:

- (i) the nucleotide sequence of Figure 1 and /or Figure 2 and/or Figure 3, or
- (ii) a sequence which has more than 66% identity to sequence (i), or a sequence which hybridises to sequence (i) under conditions of 2 x SSC, 65°C (wherein SCC= 0.15M NaCl, 0.15M sodium citrate, pH 7.2), which encodes a functionally equivalent polypeptide to the sequence encoded by the nucleotide sequence of Figure 1 and/or Figure 2 and/or Figure 3, or

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- (iii) a fragment of sequence (i) or (ii) encoding a functionally equivalent polypeptide fragment.

Claim 35. (New) The method of any one of Claim 29 or 30, wherein the polypeptide comprises:

- (i) the amino acid sequence of Figure 1 and/or Figure 2 and/or Figure 3, or
- (ii) a sequence which has more than 60% identity to sequence (i) which provides a functionally equivalent polypeptide, or
- (iii) a functionally equivalent fragment of sequence (i) or (ii).

Claim 36. (New) The method of Claim 35, wherein the functionally equivalent fragment is from 3 to 400 residues in length.

Claim 37. (New) The method of Claim 36, wherein the functionally equivalent fragment is from 3 to 100 residues in length.

Claim 38. (New) The method of Claim 34, wherein the nucleotide molecule encodes a functionally equivalent polypeptide fragment.

Claim 39. (New) The method of Claim 29, wherein the a heat shock polypeptide or a nucleotide molecule is administered in a composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient, diluent or carrier.

Claim 40. (New) The method of Claim 29, wherein the a heat shock polypeptide or a nucleotide molecule is administered in a composition comprising at least one additive for assisting or augmenting the action of the nucleotide molecule or polypeptide.

Claim 41. (New) The method of Claim 40, wherein the additive is selected from at least one member of the group consisting of paracetamol, aspirin, ibuprofen, another non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug (NSAID), a cylooxygenase-2-selective inhibitor (CSI), and an opiate.

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Claim 42. (New) The method of Claim 40, wherein the composition is in a form which provides prolonged or sustained pain relief.

Claim 43. (New) The method of Claim 29, wherein said heat shock polypeptide or nucleotide molecule encoding a heat shock polypeptide are administered in single or divided doses at a daily dosage level of from 0.0001 to 100,000 mg.

Claim 44. (New) The method of Claim 43, wherein said daily dosage level is from 0.0001 to 1000 mg.

Claim 45. (New) The method of Claim 43, wherein the divided doses are administered between six and twelve hours apart.

Claim 46. (New) The method of Claim 45, wherein the divided doses are administered between nine and twelve hours apart.

Claim 47. (New) The method of Claim 43, wherein the divided doses are administered between twelve hours and twelve days apart.

Claim 48. (New) The method of Claim 43, wherein the divided doses are administered between twelve days and six months apart.

Claim 49. (New) The method of Claim 39, wherein the composition is formulated to permit administration by at least one route selected from the group consisting of intranasal, oral, parenteral, topical, ophthalmic, suppository, pessary and inhalation.

Claim 50. (New) The method of Claim 49, wherein the composition is formulated to permit administration by inhalation.

Claim 51. (New) The method of Claim 29, wherein the subject is a human or animal.

Claim 52. (New) The method of Claim 51, wherein the subject is a human.

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Claim 53. (New) The method of Claim 29, wherein the pain is due to at least one member selected from the group consisting of backache, headache, toothache, earache, arthritis, gout, soft tissue trauma, ligament/tendon traumatic damage, a broken bone, cancer, post operative pain, menstrual pain, obstetric pain, renal tract pain, visceral pain, a burn, an abscess and an infection.